

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The office action dated May 11, 2004, and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated June 18, 2004 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4 are objected to for being unclear. In addition, the Examiner objects to portions of the specification and abstract. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 1 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,586,789 to Kishimoto.

The specification has been extensively amended for clarification, however no new matter has been added. In addition, Applicant amends claims 1, 2, and 4 and cancels claim 3.

The rejection of claims 1, 2, and 4 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1, 2, and 4 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "at least two pad members in contact with the driving circuit and the electrode links, each pad members having a different length in accordance with a length of the electrode link". None of the cited references including Kishimoto, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. The structure of claim 1 of the present invention is different from the Kishimoto structure in that in Kishimoto, "the pitch b of the exterior electrode terminals 13 is twice the pitch a". But Kishimotos does not disclose or suggest "each pad members having a different length in accordance with a length of the electrode link". Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2 and 4, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: July 21, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

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